

## Health Services

### ***Disease Control***

#### **State Register Document 4704, Amendment of R.61-22, The Evaluation of School Employees for Tuberculosis**

#### **Synopsis:**

The Department has conducted a review of Regulation 61-22 pertaining to the evaluation and screening for tuberculosis for those working in schools and child care centers. As a result of the review, the Department has substantially amended R.61-22 in order to simplify and clarify the tuberculosis screening and evaluation requirements for schools and child care centers and to significantly reduce the financial and human resources burden on schools and child care centers created in prior revisions to R. 61-22, all while affording children greater protection against exposure to tuberculosis in these settings. The amendments herein include the Department's effort to incorporate current tuberculosis evaluation and preventive treatment guidelines, update the screening and evaluation requirements for those working and volunteering in schools and child care centers, clarify language relating to the issuance of evaluation certificates, and provide for consistency with applicable state and federal laws. The title of the Regulation was changed. This amendment revised and replaced R.61-22 in its entirety and supersedes any former version of the regulation.

Legislative review is required.

#### **Promulgation History/Status:**

*The Department initiated the statutory process to amend R.61-22 by publication of a Notice of Drafting in the S.C. State Register on August 26, 2016; the drafting comment period closed September 26, 2016. On October 13, 2016 the DHEC Board approved the staff request to publicly notice the proposed revised regulation. A Notice of Proposed Regulation with notice of opportunity for public comment was published in the State Register as Document 4704 on October 28, 2016. After public hearing December 8, 2016, the DHEC Board found for the need and reasonableness of the proposed revised regulation and approved it for legislative review. The revised regulation was filed with the State Register Office December 14, 2016, was processed, verified, and submitted to the General Assembly for review January 10, 2017 and referred to the House and Senate reviewing committees. Pursuant to the request of Senate Medical Affairs Committee by letter dated January 30, 2017, the Department simultaneously withdrew and resubmitted a revised regulation on January 30, 2017. On February 7, 2017 the Senate Medical Affairs Committee introduced Joint Resolution S0374 to approve the revised regulation. The Resolution passed the House and Senate, was ratified (R.30), and signed by the Governor May 9, 2017. The revised regulation in Document 4704 was passed by Joint Resolution*

DHEC Regulation Development Update  
June 23, 2017

*and became law by publication as final regulation in State Register Volume 41 Issue 5 on May 26, 2017; it can be viewed on the S.C Legislature Online website at <http://www.scstatehouse.gov/regs/4704.docx>. For additional information contact Melissa C. Overman, Assistant State Epidemiologist, S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control, 2100 Bull Street, Columbia, South Carolina 29201 or via email at [OVERMAMC@dhec.sc.gov](mailto:OVERMAMC@dhec.sc.gov).*